

Mark Kelly, Christopher Murphy, Sherrod Brown, Tina Smith, Jacky Rosen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Tammy Baldwin, Jeanne Shaheen, Mazie Hirono, Ben Ray Lujan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on amendment No. 5051, offered by the Senator from Montana, Mr. TESTER, to H.R. 3967, a bill to improve health care and benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE), and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 78, nays 17, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 225 Leg.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin	Fischer	Murkowski
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Murphy
Bennet	Graham	Murray
Blumenthal	Grassley	Ossoff
Blunt	Hagerty	Padilla
Booker	Hassan	Peters
Boozman	Hawley	Reed
Braun	Heinrich	Rosen
Brown	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Cantwell	Hirono	Rubio
Capito	Hoeven	Sanders
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Carper	Inhofe	Schumer
Casey	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kaine	Shaheen
Collins	Kelly	Sinema
Coons	King	Smith
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Tester
Cotton	Lujan	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Van Hollen
Daines	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Marshall	Warren
Durbin	Menendez	Whitehouse
Ernst	Merkley	Wyden
Feinstein	Moran	Young

NAYS—17

Blackburn	McConnell	Shelby
Burr	Paul	Sullivan
Crapo	Portman	Tillis
Lankford	Risch	Toomey
Lee	Romney	Tuberville
Lummis	Scott (SC)	

NOT VOTING—5

Cruz	Sasse	Wicker
Kennedy	Warnock	

(Mr. SCHATZ assumed the Chair.)

(Ms. BALDWIN assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 78, the nays are 17.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Arizona.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 990, 991, and 992; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Joshua D. Hurwit, of Idaho, to be United States Attorney for the District of Idaho, for the term of four years; Gerard M. Karam, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years; and Jacqueline C. Romero, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNETEENTH IN PORTLAND, OREGON

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, Senator MERKLEY and I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Juneteenth Oregon Celebration in our hometown of Portland, OR. Every year on June 19, people in Portland and across the State of Oregon and the Nation join together to celebrate when, on June 19, 1865, more than 250,000 enslaved people in Texas were finally declared free more than 2 years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth is a celebration of freedom and recognition that emancipation was delayed for many enslaved people even after the Civil War was over. This day is among the most important days of commemoration in our Nation.

The Juneteenth celebration was brought to Oregon in 1945 by the late and beloved community leader Clara Peoples. She led the first-ever Juneteenth celebration in Oregon at work. When her supervisor told her that if the celebration ran over 15 minutes she would be fired, she announced to her coworkers, "Hear ye, hear ye. It's Juneteenth. We have 15 minutes to

celebrate." Thanks to Clara's tireless efforts in the community and her work to create the nonprofit organization Juneteenth OR, the first official city-wide celebration of Juneteenth occurred 50 years ago on June 19, 1972—and is today celebrated with a parade and other festivities like delicious food, art and live music.

Clara Peoples continued fighting for her community by lobbying at all levels of government to make Juneteenth a recognized holiday on the State and national level. While, sadly, Clara did not live to see her efforts realized, she clearly paved the way for Juneteenth to at long last be declared a Federal holiday and a State holiday in Oregon. Today, we remember and honor her as, in the words of the Rev. Dr. Ronald Myers, "the mother of Juneteenth."

Soon after Clara Peoples passed away in 2015, her granddaughters Jenelle Jack and Jynnefer Robinson took over as leaders of Juneteenth OR. Jenelle and Jynnefer continue to champion this special and important event, creating and coordinating online celebrations for 2 years during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. They even sent Oregon's candidate for last year's Miss Juneteenth, Aceia Spade from Eugene, OR, to Galveston, TX, where she was crowned National Miss Juneteenth Queen. It was through Jenelle and Jynnefer's efforts—and the efforts of the dedicated staff and volunteers of Juneteenth OR—that Portlanders and Oregonians across the State will once again be able to celebrate Juneteenth in person this year. We look forward to another Clara Peoples Freedom Trail Parade this year, as well as another Miss Juneteenth competition where young Black women will have the opportunity to showcase who they are, their talents, and their confidence.

While celebrating a victory in the fight to keep the film "Birth of a Nation," which celebrated the terrorism of the Ku Klux Klan, from being played in Portland, another Oregon hero and notable civil rights advocate Beatrice Morrow Cannady said, "human rights, the greatest of all rights, and human happiness once again triumphed." So we want to say that when enslaved people in Texas finally learned that they were free, human rights and human happiness triumphed. When Juneteenth became a citywide celebration in Portland 50 years ago, human rights and human happiness triumphed. When Juneteenth became a national holiday in 2021, human rights and human happiness triumphed. And now, on the 50th anniversary of Portland's first Juneteenth and the first time that Oregon has recognized this important day as a State holiday, human rights and human happiness have triumphed.

Juneteenth is an opportunity to celebrate the emancipation of Black Americans and progress made in the fight for human rights and human happiness. It is also a reminder, however, that the fight for true equity for all Americans is far from over. Together, we must

press forward and never stop until all are equal.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JOSEPH L. MURCHISON, JR.

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to Joseph L. “Joe” Murchison, Jr., an extraordinary public servant who passed away last year and who would have turned 92 on June 19, 2022.

Joe was born in North Carolina in 1930 and enlisted as early as he could in the U.S. Army. Determined to commit himself to his Nation, Joe eventually joined the all-Black 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion. The members of this battalion were called the “Triple Nickles.”

In 1947, a year before the Army was desegregated, Major General James Gavin oversaw the troopers’ transfer into the 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. This was the first step toward integrating the 82nd Airborne Division and made the Triple Nickles some of the first Black soldiers to train alongside White soldiers.

Even after this trailblazing shift, the troopers continued to consider themselves Triple Nickles. Despite the racial separation of most soldiers, the paratroopers gained the respect of many units as a result of their special airborne status. As Joe said, “We knew we had something to prove and we had to be better than the best.”

In 1958, Joe retired from the military as an officer. He followed his impressive service by starting several successful businesses across the United States and helping to found a newspaper in Greensboro called the “Carolina Peacemaker.” As part of these endeavors, Joe was one of the first Black owners of a North Carolina automobile dealership and worked with a major car manufacturer to promote an alternative fuel vehicle.

Joe founded the 555th Parachute Infantry Association, Inc., in 1979. The organization enables the paratroopers to stay connected. Throughout his three terms as president of the association, Joe saw it grow to include over 1,500 members across 26 chapters.

Throughout his remarkable lifetime, Joe dedicated himself to sharing the importance of the Triple Nickles, even visiting the White House. While he was alive, Joe was pleased to see Juneteenth—also his birthday—be named a Federal holiday by President Biden. He passed away on November 11, 2021, Veterans Day.

My wife Cynthia and I extend our best wishes to his daughter, Joelle, along with her 10 siblings, as well as Joe’s grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren as they celebrate his outstanding life this Sunday. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Joseph L. Murchison, Jr. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13219 OF JUNE 26, 2001, WITH RESPECT TO THE WESTERN BALKANS—PM 32

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, under which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, and which was expanded in scope in Executive Order 14033 of June 8, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2022.

The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity, and the situation in the Western Balkans, which stymies progress toward effective and democratic governance and full integration into transatlantic institutions, outlined in these Executive Orders, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13219 with respect to the Western Balkans.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 13, 2022.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13405 OF JUNE 16, 2006, WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS—PM 33

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Com-

mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, which was expanded in scope in Executive Order 14038 of August 9, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2022.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons, and the Belarusian regime’s harmful activities and longstanding abuses, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13405 with respect to Belarus.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 13, 2022.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13466 OF JUNE 26, 2008, WITH RESPECT TO NORTH KOREA—PM 34

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, expanded in scope in Executive Order 13551 of August 30, 2010, addressed further in Executive Order 13570 of April 18, 2011, further expanded in scope in Executive Order 13687 of January 2, 2015, and under which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13722 of March 15, 2016, and Executive Order 13810 of September 20, 2017, is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2022.